

## **Possible sources of funding for science communication/BME activities**

UK Research Councils

1. [BBSRC](#)
2. [EPSRC](#)
3. [ESRC](#)
4. [MRC](#)
5. [NERC](#)
6. [PPARC](#)

Other possible funding bodies

7. [NESTA](#)
8. [The Wellcome Trust](#)
9. [The Royal Society](#)
10. [OST](#)
11. [The Holmes Hines Memorial Fund](#)
12. [The Altajir Trust](#)
13. [EU](#)

### **1. Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC)**

<http://www.bbsrc.ac.uk>

BBSRC: Communicating Science

<http://www.bbsrc.ac.uk/funding/overview/Welcome.html#6>

<http://www.bbsrc.ac.uk/funding/public/Welcome.html>

#### **Type of Grant:**

*National Science Week - BBSRC, MRC, NERC Small Grant Awards for Public Engagement 2005.* The Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC), the Medical Research Council (MRC) and the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) provide a joint small grants scheme to support public engagement activities in National Science Week (10-19 March 2006).

#### **Application Date:**

The awards close in October of each year. They will be judged by an independent panel. Successful applicants will be contacted by the end of November.

#### **Max £/Min £:**

Funds up to **£2000** will be available for activities in the life or earth sciences.

**Where to go for more information:**

<http://www.bbsrc.ac.uk/funding/public/sciawkawards.html>

**Contact Details:**

Applicants wishing to discuss their ideas can telephone contacts at their affiliated Council:

**BBSRC** [Maggie Leggett](#) on 01793 413394

**MRC** [Elizabeth Mitchell](#) or [Fatima De Abreu](#) on 020 7670 5190 or 020 7670 5122 respectively

**NERC** [Liam Cubbin](#) on 01793 411623

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**Type of Grant:**

*Public Engagement - BBSRC Small Awards*

**Application Date:**

The awards usually close in October. They will be judged by an independent panel. Successful applicants will be contacted by the end of November.

**Max £/Min £:**

BBSRC announce a small grants scheme to support public engagement activities for up to **£5000**.

**Where to go for more information:**

<http://www.bbsrc.ac.uk/funding/public/peawards.html>

**Contact Details:**

Applicants wishing to discuss their ideas can telephone [Maggie Leggett](#) on 01793 413394

Grants and Awards,  
BBSRC, Polaris House,  
North Star Avenue,  
Swindon,  
SN2 1UH

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**2. Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC)**

<http://www.epsrc.ac.uk>

EPSRC: Public Engagement

<http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/PublicEngagement/ActivitiesAndFundingForResearchers/default.htm>

**Type of Grants:**

*Partnerships for Public Engagement Awards*

These grants are intended for scientists to promote their work in collaboration with public groups. Contact EPSRC to find out about potential collaborations in your area.

**Max £/Min £:**

PPE awards are usually made under three funding tiers – under £20,000, £20,000 to £120,000, and £120,000 to £250,000.

**Application Date:**

Proposals generally are submitted in response to a call for proposals.

**Two PPE calls for proposals are published each year**, usually with deadlines in spring and in autumn. A list of all our [current calls for proposals](#) is available. Further guidance on applying for [urgent PPE funding](#) outside the call deadlines is available.

**Where to go for more information:**

<http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/PublicEngagement/ActivitiesAndFundingForResearchers/PartnershipsForPublicEngagement/default.htm>

**Contact Details:**

Contact [Dr Barbara Chalmers](#), [Dr Andrew Bebb](#) or Dr. Rachel Bishop on 01793 444241

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### **3. Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC)**

<http://www.esrc.ac.uk>

ESRC: research on ethnicity & related topics

<http://www.esrcsocietytoday.ac.uk/ESRCInfoCentre/opportunities/potential%5Fforthcoming%5Fopportunities/>

**Contact Details:**

Email [naomi.beaumont@esrc.ac.uk](mailto:naomi.beaumont@esrc.ac.uk)

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#### **4. Medical Research Council (MRC)**

<http://www.mrc.ac.uk>

see [\*National Science Week Awards\*](#)

##### **Contact Details:**

Contact [Elizabeth Mitchell](#) or [Fatima De Abreu](#) on 0207 6705190 or 0207 6705122 respectively

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#### **5. Natural Environment Research Council (NERC)**

<http://www.nerc.ac.uk>

NERC: CONNECT scheme

<http://www.nerc.ac.uk/funding/grants/grants.shtml#connect>

##### **Type of Grant:**

###### *CONNECT Scheme*

The CONNECT Scheme's objective is to facilitate and promote new interactions between researchers and those who can make use of the results of research e.g. industry, commerce, business or public sector agencies. CONNECT intends to provide opportunities not covered by other schemes such as LINK, Knowledge Transfer Partnerships (KTP), CASE, Industrial CASE etc.

###### CONNECT A:

This scheme is specifically aimed at promoting new partnerships between researchers eligible under the non-thematic rules and potential users of NERC funded research. Funds can be sought for pump priming activities of two basic types: 'Proof of concept' proposals for a specific research activity relating to emerging ideas from the science base which have potential application but have a high degree of technical risk and perhaps lack a clearly defined end user; Costs for workshops or seminars on a theme of joint interest to the collaborating body and the science base. Participants should be from both communities.

##### **Application Deadline:**

There are no closing dates.

**Min£/Max£:**

A maximum of **£5,000** per application

**Where to go for more information:**

<http://www.nerc.ac.uk/funding/forms/index.shtml#connect>

**Contact Details:**

Contact Liz Humphreys on 01793 411988 or email [eahu@nerc.ac.uk](mailto:eahu@nerc.ac.uk)

The Research Grants Team  
Science and Innovation Programmes  
NERC  
Polaris House  
North Star Avenue  
Swindon SN2 1EU

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also see [National Science Week Awards](#)

**Contact Details:**

Contact [Liam Cubbin](#) on 01793 411623

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## **6. Particle Physics and Astronomy Research Council**

<http://www.pparc.ac.uk>

PPARC: Public Engagement Projects

<http://www.pparc.ac.uk/Rs/Fs/Pu/funds.asp>

**Type of Grant:**

There are four schemes:

*The Small Award Scheme* (for amounts ranging from £500-£15,000)

*The Large Award Scheme* (for amounts up to £100,000)

*The Science Centre Scheme* (amounts up to £30,000)

*The Schools Grants Scheme* (amounts up to £400)

**Application Date:**

Next closing dates are: The Small Award Scheme 21 October 2005,  
The Large Award Scheme 5 November 2005.

For the Spring Round of Small Awards you will know officially if you have been successful by 30 June. For the Autumn round you should know by Christmas. There is no closing date for the Schools Grants Scheme.

**Where to go for more information:**

<http://www.pparc.ac.uk/rs/fs/pu/SmallAwards.asp>

<http://www.pparc.ac.uk/rs/fs/pu/LargeAwards.asp>

<http://www.pparc.ac.uk/rs/fs/pu/SciCentreScheme.asp>

<http://www.pparc.ac.uk/rs/fs/pu/SchoolGrants.asp>

**Contact Details:**

Contact Malcolm Booy on 01793 442098 or email  
[malcolm.booy@pparc.ac.uk](mailto:malcolm.booy@pparc.ac.uk)

PPARC Science and Society Team  
Polaris House  
North Star Avenue  
Swindon SN2 1SZ

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## **7. National Endowment for Science Technology and the Arts**

<http://www.nesta.org/>

<http://www.nesta.org/howtoapply/>

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## **8. The Wellcome Trust**

<http://www.wellcome.ac.uk>

Wellcome Trust: public engagement

Engaging science:

Engaging Science is a grants program offering £3 million per year to support projects that investigate biomedical science and its social contexts. Funding is available for activities or academic research. Projects can consider the social, cultural, ethical and historical issues related to biomedical science.

<http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/funding/publicengagement/>

**Type of grant:**

People Awards

Provides funding to support activities such as events, debates, exhibitions, art projects and drama productions. Applications can be made at any time on projects that raise the awareness of biomedicine and its related issues.

Purpose: these awards provide fast-track funding for activities that

- communicate biomedical science to the public
- stimulate thought and debate about biomedical science
- improve understanding of the powers and limitations of science

All projects must be in the area of biomedical science and span either historical, social, ethical, cultural or contemporary issues.

Projects are funded for a maximum of three years and may include:

- workshops, talks, discussions, exhibitions in public venues
- arts projects for a variety of different audiences and age groups
- teaching materials or techniques to encourage wider discussions

**Max £/Min £:**

up to **£30 000**

**Application Dates:**

Applications can be made at any time during the year and will be peer reviewed. We aim to give you a funding decision within two months after receipt of the application.

**What to go for more information:**

<http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/node2510.html>

**Contact Details:**

All enquiries and application forms should be addressed to:

Dr Veronica McCabe

Grants Manager, PEDG

The Wellcome Trust

183 Euston Road

London NW1 2BE, UK

Tel: +44 (0)20 7611 8415

Fax: +44 (0)20 7611 8254

E-mail: [engagingscience@wellcome.ac.uk](mailto:engagingscience@wellcome.ac.uk)

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sciart

To support and encourage imaginative and experimental arts projects that investigate biomedical science. Two sciart awards available

**Type of grant:**

i) *Research and Development Awards*

Aim to support the further development of an idea in its formative stages.

Artists and scientists can either work in a collaborative partnership or named scientists can take an advisory role in an arts project. The Research award could have two possible outcomes: either 'blue sky' research, or small-scale productions which could include prototypes, artworks, performances, broadcast proposals or digital media. The awards are aimed at arts and science practitioners, as well as mediators, academics and health workers.

**Min£/Max£:**

Up to **£15 000**

**Application Deadline**

Next Deadline: Spring 2006

**What to go for more information:**

<http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/node2530.html>

**Type of grant:**

ii) *Production Awards*

Awarded to substantial projects, likely to make a significant impact on the public's engagement with science. They are aimed at arts, science and broadcast organisations and can be used to fund major activities such as exhibitions, art projects, programmes for TV and radio, theatre, time-based media, public performance or events programmes. Individuals will also be eligible to apply provided they are attached to, or associated with a recognized organization and can demonstrate a clear strategy for public presentation and associated outcomes.

**Min£/Max£:**

From **£50 000**

**Application Deadline:**

Next Deadline: Spring 2006

**Where to go for more information:**

<http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/node2530.html>

**Contact Details:**

All enquiries and application forms should be addressed to:

sciart

The Wellcome Trust

215 Euston Road

London NW1 2BE

Tel: +44 (0)20 7611 8332

Fax: +44 (0)20 7611 8545

Email: [sciart@wellcome.ac.uk](mailto:sciart@wellcome.ac.uk)

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**Type of Grant:**

*Society Awards: Activities*

This scheme is for projects that consider the issues raised by biomedicine and increase public awareness of its impact on society. Funding is available for either larger scale activities or academic research.

These awards are available to support larger scale activities that aim to make a significant impact - ideally of nationwide importance - on public engagement with science and its related issues.

Projects are funded for a maximum of three years and might include: Activities such as: workshops, talks and discussions in public venues; drama and art projects for a variety of different audiences and age groups; education resources; conferences and seminars that disseminate academic findings to a broader audience.

We have picked out a number of **new themes** that we would particularly like to see explored in the Society Awards. We also fund applications not linked to these themes and offer an **Open call** for applications on any biomedical issue. The themes are:

**The nature of biomedical science:** What is science? How is it carried out? What do scientists do? What can science do and what are its limits? How is scientific knowledge used?

**Science for the people:** How can we get scientists, the community and groups such as policy makers together, so they can share thoughts and ideas and learn from one another? How can we enable lay people to feed into decision making or influence what research is carried out? And how can we actually get people directly involved in research projects?

**Me, myself and I:** DNA databases; tissue samples; organ donation : how can we balance individual rights and desires and our wider responsibility to others? A fertile area for debate and discussion

**Min£/Max£:**

Above **£50,000**

**Application Deadline:**

Applications for Society Award activities will be invited by specified deadlines twice a year and will be peer-reviewed and considered by an expert panel. **The next deadline for Society Award activities is 1 February 2006.** Decisions will be made up to four months after the deadline.

**Where to go for more information:**

<http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/node2540.html>

**Contact Details:**

All enquiries and application forms should be addressed to:  
Dr Veronica McCabe  
Grants Manager, PEDG  
The Wellcome Trust  
183 Euston Road  
London NW1 2BE, UK  
Tel: +44 (0)20 7611 8415  
Fax: +44 (0)20 7611 8254  
E-mail: [societyactivities@wellcome.ac.uk](mailto:societyactivities@wellcome.ac.uk)

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**9. The Royal Society**

<http://www.royalsoc.ac.uk>

**Type of grant:**

*Partnership Grants*

Do you have a good idea for bringing science alive in schools, but need some funding to make it happen?

Maybe you're a teacher with a great idea for a science project? Or perhaps a scientist or an engineer who would like to be more involved with your local school? The Royal Society's Partnership Grants scheme could be just what you're looking for.

**Min£/Max£:**

Up to **£3000**

**Application Deadline:**

The next closing date for the scheme is Friday 21 October 2005. The next deadline for applications after this will be in February 2006.

**Where to go for more information:**

<http://www.royalsoc.ac.uk/page.asp?id=1948>

**Contact Details:**

Contact [education@royalsoc.ac.uk](mailto:education@royalsoc.ac.uk) or call 020 7451 2561

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**Type of grant:**

*History of Science Projects*

The Royal Society currently sponsors three major research projects in the history of science

**Where to go for more information:**

<http://www.royalsoc.ac.uk/funding.asp?id=2362>

**Contact Details:**

Contact <http://www.royalsoc.ac.uk/contactus.asp>  
for more information

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## **10. The Office of Science and Technology**

<http://www.ost.gov.uk>

OST: Public Engagement with Science and Technology

<http://www.dti.gov.uk/ost/ostbusiness/puset/grants.htm>

**Type of grant:**

*Sciencewise*

An important new initiative from the Government's Office of Science and Technology (OST) to provide funding for projects that help to achieve greater public confidence in and improved engagement with science and technology. The objective is to help the Government and society make better choices about critical areas of new science and technology that affect people's lives.

The key aim of Sciencewise is to encourage public engagement with and dialogue about science and technology-related issues that can feed into public policy.

Projects supported by the scheme will aim to:

- Encourage collaboration, networking and co-operation between organisations to increase the coherence and impact of engagement and dialogue activities
- Have national coverage, or be pilot projects that are capable of being scaled up to reach audiences across the UK
- Widen participation in engagement and dialogue activities through reaching new audiences and increasing the effectiveness of existing activity
- Develop and disseminate good practice in science communication including evaluation methodology.

**Application Deadline:**

Invitations To Tender will hopefully be announced via the Sciencewise website and other media by autumn of 2006.

**Where to go for more information:**

<http://www.sciencewise.org.uk/>

**Contact Details:**

Helpline: 0870 240 2943 or email [info@sciencewise.org.uk](mailto:info@sciencewise.org.uk)

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## **11. The Holmes Hines Memorial Fund**

**Type of grant:**

The Holmes-Hines memorial fund is a charitable fund which administers a bequest for:

- annual prizes, scholarships, exhibitions or research grants
- the incidental expenses of visiting scientists
- purchase of scientific apparatus and equipment
- funds for such other purposes for the advancement of scientific knowledge as the Council shall see fit

**Where to go for more information:**

<http://www.pparc.ac.uk/rs/fs/pu/HolmesHines.asp>

**Contact Details:**

Contact Ms Lesley Northfield at EPSRC on 01793 444493 or email [lesley.northfield@epsrc.ac.uk](mailto:lesley.northfield@epsrc.ac.uk)

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## **12. The Altajir Trust**

**Type of grant:**

General information:

This trust makes grants for the advancement of science, education and research which is beneficial to the community in Britain or any Arab or Islamic state. Support is also given to students at universities in the UK and conference and exhibitions are sponsored which promote the

understanding of Islamic culture and arts throughout the world.

Grants are made to both individuals and organisations.

Areas of work:

Islam, education, science and research

**Min£/Max£:**

**£192,000** to organisations (2002)

**Contact Details:**

D Haldaney

Director

11 Elvaston Place

London

SW7 5QG

Tel 020 7581 3522

Fax 020 7584 1977

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### **13. The European Union**

**Type of Grants:**

*Science and Society: Science Communication*

**Max £/Min £:**

Budget of €1.6 million

**Application Date:**

Closing date 25 October 2005

**Where to go for more information:**

[http://europa.eu.int/comm/research/science-society/action-plan/action-plan\\_en.html](http://europa.eu.int/comm/research/science-society/action-plan/action-plan_en.html)

<http://www.cordis.lu/science-society/calls.htm>

[http://fp6.cordis.lu/fp6/call\\_details.cfm?CALL\\_ID=221](http://fp6.cordis.lu/fp6/call_details.cfm?CALL_ID=221)

**Contact Details:**

Either [rtd-sciencesociety@cec.eu.int](mailto:rtd-sciencesociety@cec.eu.int)

Or Robin Hurst 020 7215 6429

Department of Trade and Industry / Office of Science and Technology

Bay 579, 1 Victoria Street

London SW1H 0ET

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## DISC Year 2 Residential Training Courses